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Private Representation Costs - Felonies

In Spring 2020, the Washington State Office of Public Defense issued an online survey to private criminal defense attorneys statewide to determine the average cost of private representation in various case types. The survey specifically asked for attorney costs *excluding* additional expenses for investigators, experts, or other professional services.

The survey also asked attorneys to identify how much advance payment is required prior to representing criminal defense clients. All responding attorneys answered that at least some pre-payment is required. **Over 70% of respondents indicated that at least 50% of payment must be paid in advance.**

Below are the survey results:

Case Type	Average Cost for Typical Case	Average Cost for Cases with a Trial or other Complex Legal Issues
Felony Controlled Substance Cases	\$6,300	\$14,500
Felony Domestic Violence Cases	\$7,500	\$15,000
Felony DUIs	\$7,500	\$13,700
Sex Offenses	\$16,200	\$33,000
Other Class A Felonies	\$17,600	\$38,200
Other Class B Felonies	\$8,900	\$14,700
Other Class C Felonies	\$6,000	\$10,200